

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

INFO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

USSAGE NAKHON PHNOM

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

COGARD POLAD

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

UNCLAS STATE 009350

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: JANUARY 15 EA PRESS SUMMARY

INDOCHINA

1. FANK INFANTRY SUPPORTED BY APCs AND T-28s BATTLES  
REBELS IN WIDE ARC TO NORTH, WEST AND SOUTH OF PP, WITH  
FIGHTING CLOSE AS FOUR MILES FROM CITY. REBELS CLAIM  
THEY SHOT DOWN STRAFING KAF PLANE ABOUT SIX MILES FROM  
PP, ALL FIVE CREW MEMBERS BELIEVED KILLED (UPI, NYT).

2. NEW CUT OF ROUTE 4 TO KOMPONG SOM BY REBELS  
ATTRIBUTED BY FANK COMMAND TO MOVEMENT OF GKR FORCES  
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FROM ROAD TO PP AREA (AP, CHITRIB). FANK COMMAND SAYS  
CAMBODIA'S ONLY CEMENT FACTORY, BUILT WITH PRC AID  
NEAR KAMPOT, FELL TO "INSURGENTS" TWO DAYS AGO  
(PETERSON, REUTER).

3. GVN MILITARY SPOKESMAN SAYS HELIBORNE PLATOON OF 30 RETAKES LE MINH CAMP, IN PLEIKU PROVINCE NEAR KHMER BORDER, AGAINST LIGHT RESISTANCE FOLLOWING INTENSE BOMBARDMENT OF BASE AND SURROUNDING AREA. ARVN COLUMN OF 2000 ADVANCES FROM PLEIKU CITY, 28 MILES AWAY, TO SUPPORT ADVANCE PARTY. MILITARY SOURCES SAY RECAPTURE OF LE MINH WOULD BE BIG BOOST TO ARVN MORALE IF IT IS HELD. BASE WAS OVERRUN BY NVA IN SEPTEMBER, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE TOO CLOSE TO NEW ROAD FROM DRV TO VC BORDER ZONES (REUTER, NHT; AP CHITRIB, WP). SVN COMMANDER SAYS TWO NVA REGIMENTS MOVE WITHIN 20 MILES OF SAIGON, PLAN TO ATTACK BIEN HOA AIR BASE AROUND TET (AP CHITRIB, WP).

4. FORMER US AMBASSADOR TO SVN ('57-'61) ELBRIDGE DURBROW ARRIVES AT SAIGON WITH SEVEN OTHERS ON PRIVATE FACT-FINDING MISSION FOR AMERICAN SECURITY COUNCIL, CONSERVATIVE, PRIVATE, NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. GROUP INVITED BY VIETNAM FOREIGN RELATIONS COUNCIL, PRIVATE ORGANIZATION FORMED TO ATTRACT FOREIGN INVESTORS AND WORK FOR BETTER INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THROUGH PERSONAL CONTACT. DURBROW IS DIRECTOR OF FREEDOM STUDIES CENTER OF INSTITUTE FOR AMERICAN STRATEGY, PRIVATE VIRGINIA ORGANIZATION (AP, NYT).

5. DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAY THIEU PLANNING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS TO PERMIT HIM REMAIN IN OFFICE FOR THIRD CONSECUTIVE TERM, TO FORMALIZE PRESENT SYSTEM OF PROVINCE CHIEF APPOINTMENT BY INTERIOR MINISTRY, AND TO HAVE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECT SUPREME COURT JUDGES, PROSECUTORS AND LAWYERS (CSM).

6. SOUTHERLAND (CSM) REPORTS IT APPEARS DOUBTFUL THAT TALKS WILL LEAD TO RELEASE OF 4000 POWS BY TET, AND DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE WHICH SIDE RESPONSIBLE FOR DEADLOCK SINCE BOTH GIVE PROPAGANDA VERSIONS OF UNCLASSIFIED

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BARGAINING.

7. GRAY (LAT, JAN. 13) FROM GIA NGHIA WRITES OF GREEN BERET ERA IN CENTRAL HIGHLANDS, QUOTES US VETERAN THAT SPECIAL FORCES PRODUCED MIXED BAG, TEACHING MONTAGNARDS MUCH IN INFORMAL MANNER BUT FAILING TO DEVELOP INDIGENOUS LEADERS. ONE EX-GREEN BERET, EDMUND SPRAGUE, REMAINS BEHIND IN QUANG DUC WITH AID TO HELP MONTAGNARDS WITH REFUGEE ASSISTANCE, AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT AND LAND IDENTIFICATION, AMONG OTHER THINGS. NOW RE-SETTLING 2000 TRIBESMEN WHO FLED BEFORE RECENT NVA ADVANCE. MONTAGNARDS PROUD TO HAVE WORKED WITH SPECIAL FORCES, AND SPRAGUE SEEMS ONLY HOLDOVER FROM THAT PERIOD

OF VN WAR.

8. FOISIE (LAT, JAN. 11) FROM UDORN AB WRITES OF US AIRMEN WHO STILL DRAW COMBAT PAY FOR RECON FLIGHTS. QUOTES BG HILRETH THAT AERIAL RECON CONTINUES OVER SVN AND CREWS FACE RISK OF HOSTILE FIRE. ONE PILOT SAYS MAKES AVERAGE TWO WEEKLY RECON MISSIONS OVER "INSURGENT AREAS OF INDOCHINA." NIGHT RECON HAS ENDED AND PLANES AVOID AREAS WHERE AA MISSILES LOCATED. FOISIE SAYS UDORN OFFICERS ALSO DISCLOSED THAT SPECIAL US UNIT CONTINUES TRAINING LAO AND KHMER PILOTS, BUT REPORTERS REFUSED ACCESS TO UNIT "WITHOUT CONSENT OF" RTG. FIGHTER-BOMBERS ALSO TRAIN AT UDORN AND UNITS REMAIN CLOSE TO FULL STRENGTH AND INSTANT READINESS TO RESUME SEA AIR WAR BECAUSE, AS ONE AIRMAN SAID, "THAT IS THE WAY THE PRESIDENT WANTS IT."

JAPAN

9. GOJ OFFICIALS DISCLOSE PM TANAKA HAS CABLED PRES. NIXON CONFIRMATION OF JAPAN'S DECISION TO TAKE PART IN NEXT MONTH'S WASHINGTON CONFERENCE OF OIL-CONSUMING COUNTRIES, WITH PM OHIRA PROBABLY REPRESENTING JAPAN (REUTER)

10. TANAKA ARRIVES IN JAKARTA ON LAST STOP OF SEA TOUR, ESTIMATED 800 ANI-JAPANESE STUDENT DEMONSTRATORS AT AIRPORT PROTEST VISIT (REUTER, UPI). REUTER JAKARTA UNCLASSIFIED

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REPORTS DEMONSTRATIONS DEVELOPED INTO WORST RIOTS SEEN THERE SINCE 1966, WITH STUDENTCROWDS RUSHING THROUGH CITY OVERTURNING JAPANESE-MADE AUTOS; TROOPS OPENED FIRE TO QUELL STUDENT DISTURBANCES FOR FIRST TIME SINCE INDONESIA STUDENT PROTEST MOVEMENT REVIVED ABOUT SIX MONTHS AGO. MOBS STORMED INTO GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS AND PULLED DOWN INDONESIAN FLAGS TO HALF-STAFF. CENTER OF JAKARTA LIKE ARMED CAMP TUESDAY, WITH MACHINE GUN POSTS AND ARMORED CARS AT STRATEGIC CORNERS AND HELICOPTERS CIRCLING OVERHEAD.

11. NYT'S HALLORAN, IN JAKARTA, SAYS TANAKA TALKS WITH INDONESIANS EXPECTED TO BE TOUCHIEST OF HIS TOUR, AND NOTES THAT ABOUT 12 PER CENT OF JAPAN'S OIL COMES FROM INDONESIA -- POINT THAT JAPANESE ARE SENSITIVE ABOUT DURING ENERGY CRISIS. OBERDORFER (WP), IN JAKARTA, CONCURS THAT TANAKA'S STOP THERE IS HIS "MOST IMPORTANT," WITH ADVANCE REPORTS SUGGESTING IT MAY ALSO BE HIS "MOST DIFFICULT," FOR AS JAPAN HAS MOVED VIGOROUSLY INTO INDONESIA WITH TRADE AND INVESTMENT, ANTI-JAPANESE SENTIMENT HAS GROWN RAPIDLY THERE. REPORTS BELIEF THAT INDONESIAN STUDENTS ARE USING THEIR ANTI-

JAPAN CAMPAIGN TO BUILD SUPPORT FOR OTHER POLITICAL POSITIONS AND TO UNDERMINE SUHARTO GOVERNMENT.

12. HALLORAN AND OBERDORFER CITE "DESULTORY" OUTBURST MONDAY ON MALAYSIA U CAMPUS WHEN STUDENTS, ANGERED BY TANAKA'S REFUSAL TO MEET WITH THEM, ACCUSED HIM OF ARROGANCE AND INDIFFERENCE AND DENOUNCED "SELFISH RUTHLESSNESS" OF JAPAN'S TRADE POLICY. STUDENTS BURNED JAPANESE FLAG AND TANAKA EFFIGY (AP PHOTO, CHITRIB).

13. TOKYO REPORTS SAY JAPANESE REFINERS SUPPLIED BY EXXON WILL HAVE THEIR CRUDE OIL SHIPMENTS RESTORED THIS MONTH TO PRE-SEPT. RATES; GULF ALSO ASSURES JAPANESE REFINER ITS FULL SUPPLY OF CRUDE OIL FROM KUWAIT (JOC). UPI TOKYO REPORTS TWO LEADING STORAGE TANK MAKERS WILL BUILD 12 OIL TANKS AND INSTALL THEM IN IRAQ BY SUMMER OF 1975 (UPI NYT, JOC; REUTER). NYT REPORTS GOJ IS WORKING ON 280-MILLION DOLLAR PROGRAM OF AID FOR EGYPT FOR REOPENING OF SUEZ CANAL. AID, IN FORM OF CREDITS, UNCLASSIFIED

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DESCRIBED IN GOVERNMENT CIRCLES AS EVIDENCE OF JAPAN'S DESIRE TO PLAY ROLE IN RESTORING ME PEACE AND TO PROMOTE FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES.

14. JAPAN CELEBRATES COMING OF AGE DAY, WITH ALL BUSINESS AND GOVT. OFFICES CLOSED TUESDAY. TOTAL OF 900,000 MEN AND 890,000 WOMEN REACHED ADULTHOOD (20 YEARS) DURING 1973. AMONG OTHER THINGS, THEY CAN NOW SMOKE, DRINK SAKE, VOTE AND CHOOSE OWN MARRIAGE PARTNERS (REUTER). JAPAN OIL FIRMS GIVE WORKERS OFF-SEASON BONUSES AS SHARE IN UNUSUAL PROFITS RESULTING FROM OIL CRISIS (WP).

CHINA

15. OFFICIAL CHINESE SPOKESMAN IN PEKING SAID MONDAY THAT VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING, WHO WAS DISGRACED DURING GPCR, HAS BEEN PROMOTED TO CCP POLITBURO (WP).

16. REUTER PEKING REPORTS OVER 10,000 STUDENTS, WORKERS AND ADMINISTRATORS ATTENDED MASS RALLY AT INDOOR SPORTS STADIUM YESTERDAY AFTERNOON TO CELEBRATE GRADUATION OF FIRST BATCH OF STUDENTS TO ATTAIN DEGREES SINCE GPCR. SPEECHES EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF APPLYING MARXISM-LENINISM-MAO THOUGHT TO PRACTICAL AND EDUCATIONAL TASKS, AND OF INTEGRATING NEW GRADS WITH "WORKERS, PEASANTS AND SOLDIERS" - BOTH CENTRAL THEMES OF PRC'S NEW EDUCATIONAL POLICY. FOREIGN OBSERVERS FEEL THAT "UNUSUAL MEETING" COULD BE PART OF DEBATE ON DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM CENTERED ON THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF IDEOLOGICAL AND ACADEMIC CRITERIA

FOR JUDGING STUDENT'S EFFORT (WP).

17. SUN'S ISAACS IN HK REPORTS THAT CHINA'S LEADERS  
HAVE LAUNCHED MAJOR NEW CAMPAIGN TO INDOCTRINATE  
COMMIE FUNCTIONARIES IN TRUE MAO THOUGHT AND TO HEIGHTEN  
THEIR VIGILANCE AGAINST "ANTI-PARTY" INFLUENCES.  
EXISTENCE OF CAMPAIGN BECAME EVIDENT IN LAST FEW  
WEEKS, WITH NEARLY EVERY PROVINCE ANNOUNCING FORMATION  
OF NEW STUDY CLASSES FOR PARTY AND GOVT. OFFICIALS.  
NOT CLEAR WHETHER CAMPAIGN IS DIRECTED AGAINST ANY SPECIFIC  
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INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS, BUT MAJOR ELEMENT WILL  
APPARENTLY BE EMPHASIS ON ACHIEVEMENTS OF GPCR. STUDY  
MOVEMENT REFLECTS WHAT MOST OUTSIDE ANALYSTS  
BELIEVE IS CONTINUING POWER STRUGGLE BETWEEN GPCR  
ACTIVISTS AND MODERATES.

18. AFP PEKING REPORT PEOPLE'S DAILY CRITICIZING  
WESTERN MUSICAL CLASSICS, DENOUNCING BEETHOVEN AND  
SCHUBERT WORKS AS HAVING "BOURGEOIS AND CAPITALIST  
MENTALITY." REUTERS PEKING SAYS CRITICISM SEEMS  
TO SIGNAL RETREAT FROM MORE TOLERANT APPROACH  
THAT BEGAN LAST YEAR. RECALLS THAT LAST YEAR  
WESTERN ORCHESTRAS PLAYED TO PACKED HOUSES AND  
WON WARM APPLAUSE FROM CHINESE CRITICS WHO DESCRIBED  
MUSIC IN MARKEDLY NONPOLITICAL TERMS. PEOPLE'S DAILY  
TODAY DISMISSED IDEA THAT MUSIC WAS COMMON LANGUAGE  
TRANSCENDING NATIONAL BOUNDARIES AND CRITICIZED  
THOSE FASCINATED BY WESTERN CLASSICAL MUSIC AND THOSE  
WHO "PROSTRATE THEMSELVES" BEFORE IT.

19. PRC RELEASES GERMAN BUSINESSMAN, HEINRICH LIPPARDT,  
20 YEARS AFTER SENTENCING HIM TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT  
ON CHARGES OF SPYING (LAT JAN. 14).

KOREA

20. NY SEOUL REPORTS PARK ANNOUNCEMENT OF SERIES OF  
FINANCIAL MEASURES TO REDUCE TAX BURDEN ON PEOPLE  
WITH LOW INCOME, CURB SPENDING FOR LUXURIES AND  
CONSERVE GASOLINE.

THAILAND

21. REUTER BANGKOK REPORTS AMB. KINTNER IN "RARE  
DISCUSSION" OF CIA ACTIVITIES TUESDAY DEFENDED THEM  
AS PROVIDING THAI AUTHORITIES WITH VITAL INFO ON  
INTERNAL EXTERNAL SECURITY; ADDED IN INTERVIEW, THAT  
US INVOLVEMENT WAS IN "PERIOD OF TRANSITION FROM A  
VERY DEEP ENGAGEMENT IN THIS COUNTRY," AND THAT HE  
BELIEVES THERE SHOULD BE US-RTG EXCHANGE TO DETERMINE

FUTURE RELATIONSHIPS. ASKED IF CIA INVOLVEMENT WAS  
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WORTHWILE, KINTNER SAID THIS IS JUDGMENT TO BE MADE  
BY THAIS; "THEY ARE APPRECIATIVE OF EFFORTS MADE  
BY THE AGENCY."

22. REUTER BANGKOK REPORTS SANYA HAS ORDERED  
RTG AUTHORITIES WORKING WITH CIA TO SUBMIT  
REPORTS ON AGENCY'S ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND.

23. AT BANGKOK, CHAIRMAN OF NORTHROP THAILAND AIRPORT  
CO. ANNOUNCES THAT NORTHROP AND OTHER PARTNERS ARE  
PULLING OUT OF PROJECT TO BUILD SECOND INTERNATIONAL  
AIRPORT NEAR BANGKOK AT COST OF ABOUT 125 MILLION DOLS.  
ANNOUNCEMENT COMES AMID PUBLIC QUESTIONING OF PROJECT;  
SAYS BECAUSE OF CHANGES IN AGREEMENT AND REASSESSMENT  
BY LENDERS, "PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT" FOR PROJECT  
WITHDREW. COMPANY SPOKESMAN ASSUMES THAI SUBSIDIARY  
SET UP FOR PROJECT, NORTHROP THAILAND AIRPORT CO.,  
WOULD BE DISSOLVED WITH CAPITAL ASSETS RETURNED TO  
BOTH NORTHROP AND THAI INVESTORS (WSJ).

HONG KONG

24. FOUR MEN ARMED WITH KNIVES BOUND AND ROBBED SIX  
EMPLOYEES IN TRANSLATING SECTION OF US CONSULATE  
MONDAY, ESCAPING WITH CASH AND WRIST WATCHES  
VALUED AT 555 DOLS (AP, NYDN).

AUSTRALIA

25. GOA BEGINS TOP-LEVEL INVESTIGATION INTO NEWSPAPER  
PUBLICATION LAST WEEK OF ALLEGEDLY HIGH SECRET AND  
CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN GOVT. AND ITS US  
EMBASSY (REUTER, CSM).

PHILIPPINES

26. GOP MILITARY BANS CIVILIAN TRAFFIC ALONG 38  
MILES OF RIO GRANDE BECAUSE OF INCREASED FIGHTING  
BETWEEN GOVT. FORCES AND MOSLEM REBELS (AP NYDN, WP).

27. SOVIET EMBASSY IN LONDON REPORTS GOP HAS ALLOWED  
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SALE OF 7,700 TONS OF COPRA TO USSR (JOC).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

28. LAT'S ELEGANT IN HK (JAN. 13) DISCUSSES RECENT RESHUFFLING OF REGIONAL COMMANDERS IN PRC, USING AS POINT OF DEPARTURE EXPERIENCE OF PAST CHINESE DYNASTIES IN GATHERING POWER OVER GENERALS WHO RULED HINTERLANDS. NOTES THAT TRANSITION WAS NOT ALWAYS SMOOTH, WITH SOME FOUNDER-EMPERORS OF DYNASTIES FORCED TO "PARE AWAY" THEIR GENERALS' POWER USING TACTICS NOW CALLED SALAMI-SLICING. SINCE 1954, PEKING HAS BEEN "PARING AWAY" POWER OF GENERALS. PROCESS STILL NOT COMPLETE DESPITE SPECTACULAR REDUCTION OF REGIONAL GENERALS' POWER BY RECENT MASS REASSIGNMENTS; BUT SLICE JUST CUT WAS THICKEST SINCE '54, WHEN PEKING DISSOLVED FOUR GREAT MILITARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS. SLICING PROCESS CONTINUES BECAUSE PEKING HAS YET TO ESTABLISH TRUE STABILITY THAT WOULD RENDER REGIONAL SATRAPS UNNECESSARY, AND CONTINUING INSTABILITY HAS MADE ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTRALIZED RULE PROTRACTED PROCESS IN CHINA AND HAS PREVENTED PEKING'S CREATING CROPS OF CIVILIAN OFFICIALS WHO CAN BE ALLOWED SUBSTANTIAL AUTONOMY IN PROVINCES. OF RECENT SHIFTS, SAYS GENERAL IN HIGHEST CENTRAL POSITION AS CHIEF OF PLA GENERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT WAS TRANSFERRED FROM PEKING TO MANCHURIA. HE IS ALLIED WITH INSURGENT "LEFTISTS," CHIEF AMONG THEM, MME. MAO. NEWLY APPOINTED COMMANDER OF PEKING MILITARY UNITS, WHO CONTROLS TROOPS IN INNER MONGOLIA AND TWO CENTRAL PROVINCES WELL AS CAPITAL, IS ADHERENT OF CHOU'S MODERATES. MAINTAINS, HOWEVER, THAT POWER OF ALL SATRAPS WAS RADICALLY REDUCED BY ASSIGNING THEM NEW POLITICAL COMMISSARS, AND BY CUTTING THEM OFF FROM THEIR OLD POWER BASES. AT SAME TIME, PEKING ANNOUNCEMENT IMPLIED STRONGLY THAT STATUS OF MILITARY REGIONS THEMSELVES WAS SHARPLY REDUCED EXCEPT FOR COMMANDER OF SINKIANG MILITARY REGION. PREVIOUSLY, TROOPS WERE ATTACHED TO GIVEN MILITARY REGION AND, THEREFORE, TO ITS COMMANDER. NOW CLEAR THAT REGIONAL COMMANDER CONTROLS TROOPS WHICH, AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT, HAPPEN TO BE STATIONED WITHIN HIS UNCLASSIFIED

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AREA, BUT FINAL CONTROL OVER TROOP MOVEMENTS LIES IN CAPITAL.

29 FROM CANTON, GLOBE'S STRAUSS (JAN. 13) WRITES ABOUT INCREASING INCIDENTS OF CRIME AND VIOLENCE IN SOUTHERN CHINA. OBSERVES TEAM OF "VIGILANTES," CALLED "WORKERS' PICKETS" BY AUTHORITIES, STANDING OUTSIDE FACTORY ABOUT 10 P.M. GIVING DIRECTIONS TO GROUP OF WORKERS. INTERVIEWS REPS OF BODY KNOWN AS "LAW AND POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION," WHO SAY LAW PROVIDES FOR PUBLIC EXECUTION OF CRIMINALS. REPORTS REACHING HK SAY EXECUTIONS HAVE BEEN INCREASING IN RECENT MONTHS AND INDICATE MAJORITY ARE RELATED TO VIOLATIONS OF ONE OF CHINA'S MAJOR MOVEMENTS - RESETTLEMENT OF EDUCA-

TED YOUNG PEOPLE IN COUNTRYSIDE. CITES SOME HK OBSERVERS AS BELIEVING RECENT EMPHASIS ON STRENGTHENING MILITIA IS TO CREATE GROUP TO REPLACE "WORKERS' PICKETS." HOWEVER, AUTHORITIES IN CANTON SAY REASON FOR BOTH GROUPS IS THAT, "WE KEEP SOCIAL ORDER NOT ONLY BY RELYING ON THE POLICE, BUT MAINLY BY RELYING ON THE MASSES." STRAUSS COMMENTS THAT IN POINT OF FACT, PEOPLE'S POLICE WAS SEVERELY MAULED DURING GPCR AND NOW IS RELIED ON FOR NOTHING BUT REGULATING TRAFFIC.

30. GLOBE'S CROCKER SNOW (JAN. 12) IN TOKYO NOTES THAT ALL BUT ONE OF INCUMBENT POLITICAL POWERHOUSES IN JAPAN - FUKUDA - HAVE CHECKED OUT AND GONE ABROAD TO PATCH FENCES OR FIND SOME OIL-BASED CREOSOTE TO PRESERVE THEM. SAYS FUKUDA HAS RECENTLY BEEN WELCOMED INTO FOLD BY TANAKA TO TRY TURN NATION'S INFLAMMATORY AND INFLATIONARY ECONOMY AROUND; HIS RESURRECTION FROM OBSCURITY CAME SIX WEEKS AGO, ACCORDING SNOW, WITH CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT HE WOULD JETTISON TANAKA'S EXPANSIONARY ECON POLICY AND BATTEN DOWN HATCHES FOR WORST WEATHER STILL TO COME. SNOW NOTES AUSTERITY MEASURES APPLIED IN JAPAN; DESCRIBES THEM AS EFFORT TO PROMOTE TRADITIONAL JAPANESE SPIRIT OF SELF-SACRIFICE OVER CONTEMPORARY ONE OF CONSUMERISM. THINKS IT SIGNIFICANT THAT THIS IS STRATEGY CONCEIVED AND ADMINISTERED BY FUKUDA AT HOME "MORE THAN THE COUNTRY'S POLITICAL GLAMOUR BOYS WHO ARE ON THE ROAD."

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31. LAT'S SOBLE (JAN. 13) REPORTS THAT NOMURA - TOKYO-BASED SECURITIES HOUSE - OPENED NEW SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE LAST WEEK AND EXPECTS OPEN ANOTHER IN CHICAGO SOON, INDICATING THAT NORMURA SECURITIES IS BULLISH ON AMERICA. CONTENDS THAT MEASURING NOMURA'S SIZE AGAINST MOST OTHER BROKERAGE OPERATIONS IS SOMEWHAT AKIN TO PLACING SUN BESIDE THE EARTH; ONLY MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER AND SMITH STACKS UP WITH NUMURA.

32. IN DAILY LAT ARTICLES (JAN. 11 THROUGH 13) DAVID LAMB WRITES FROM AUCKLAND, CHRISTCHURCH, AND WELLINGTON, RESPECTIVELY, ABOUT CONTENTMENT AS WAY OF LIFE IN NZ, NEARLY FLAWLESS RELATIONS BETWEEN CIVILIANS AND U.S. SAILORS AFFILIATED WITH "OPERATION DEEP FREEZE," AND NEW ZEALAND'S WELFARE SYSTEM, WHICH LACKS ONLY FUNERAL BENEFITS.

33. FROM SAIGON, S-N'S BRADSHER ASSESSES VN C-F AGREEMENT YEAR AFTER ITS SIGNING. FINDS ITS ONLY STRIKING SUCCESSES WERE IN GETTING US OUT OF DIRECT COMBAT AND OBTAINING RELEASES OF US POWS; MAIN WEAKNESS OF AGREEMENT - LACK OF GOOD WILL TO CARRY IT OUT AND END WAR - STILL REMAINS. NEITHER GVN NOR DRV SEEMS



SERIOUSLY TO EXPECT ANY CHANGE. THIEU HAS BEEN HOLDING LENGTHY SERIES OF TOP-LEVEL MEETINGS TO REVIEW WAY C-F HAS WORKED OVER PAST YEAR, AND MEETINGS EXPECTED TO PRODUCE MAJOR THIEU STATEMENT AT BEGINNING OF TET. SVN OFFICIALS EXPECT HAK AND LE DUC THO TO MEET AGAIN WITHIN NEXT FEW WEEKS. IMPLICATION IS THAT SOME NEW PROPOSALS ARE NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION. BRADSHER ASSERTS THAT EMBASSY SAIGON DOES NOT SEEM TO TAKE ATTITUDE THAT ITS JOB IS TRYING MAKE SVN ADHERE TO AGREEMENT. MOOD SET BY "HAWKISH" AMB. MARTIN IS MORE ONE OF UNDERSTANDING SPONSORS TO COMMIE VIOLATIONS THAN QUESTIONING WHETHER SVN IS VIOLATING OR UNDERCUTTING AGREEMENT ITSELF. MAINTAINS THAT IN AUTUMN 1972, WHILE SAIGON WAS RESISTING AGREEMENT TERMS BUT HAK WAS ASSURING WORLD "PEACE IS AT HAND," EMBASSY OPERATIVES LOBBIED US PRESS IN SAIGON TO BELIEVE IT WAS GOOD AGREEMENT, BOUND TO WORK - VIRTUALLY SELF-ENFORCING  
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BECAUSE HANOI WOULD BE SO EAGER FOR US RECONSTRUCTION MONEY. SUCH OPERATIVES HAVE NOW FADED INTO WOODWORK, BARRED BY MARTIN FROM DISCUSSING WAY THINGS HAVE WORKED OUT. CONCLUDING, BRADSHER REFERS TO PORTION OF AGREEMENT WHICH SAYS "THE TWO SOUTH VIETNAMESE PARTIES WILL ACHIEVE NATIONAL RECONCILIATION AND CONCORD"; RAISES QUESTION WHETHER "ANYONE SERIOUSLY EXPECT THAT TO HAPPEN, OR WAS IT PART OF THE RHETORIC OF GETTING THE AMERICANS OUT OF VIETNAM FOR ESSENTIALLY DOMESTIC POLITICAL REASONS" IN US?

34. GLOBE AND MAIL'S JOHN BURNS (CSM) IN PEKING REPORTS PEOPLE'S DAILY THIS WEEK GIVING FRONT-PAGE DISPLAY AND "NOD OF FATHERLY APPROVAL" TO CASE OF 15-YEAR-OLD CANTON YOUTH WHO QUESTIONS HIS TEACHER'S ACTIONS FOR DISCIPLINING HIM WHEN CAUGHT CHEATING IN MATH EXAM. INDICATES THIS IS PART OF CAMPAIGN, WHICH BEGAN SOME MONTHS AGO, STRESSING NEED TO DEFEND EDUCATIONAL REFORMS INSTITUTED DURING GPCR.

35. CSM'S SAIKOWSKI DECLARES THAT AFTER PERIOD OF EUPHORIA GENERATED BY HIGH-LEVEL AMERICAN VISITS TO PEKING, SINO-US RELATIONS ARE SETTling INTO MORE ROUTINE, INSTITUTIONAL PATTERNS OF DIPLOMACY; THUS, US AND CHINA ARE GETTING INTO MORE AND MORE OF KIND OF PROBLEMS THAT CHARACTERIZE DEALINGS BETWEEN COMMIE AND NON-COMMIE COUNTRY. CITES DOS OFFICIALS AS SAYING THIS IS HEALTHY SIGN THAT RELATIONS ARE BECOMING MORE NORMAL. SAIKOWSKI SAYS SOLVING USLO HOUSING AND OFFICE SPACE AND OTHER PROBLEMS IS NOW MORE DIFFICULT. FORMERLY, DECISIONS COULD BE AND WERE MADE AT HIGH LEVELS, THEREFORE, TOOK LESS TIME; BUT CHINESE ARE NOW OPERATING THROUGH NORMAL, BUREAUCRATIC CHANNELS AND, BECAUSE MORE GOVT.

OFFICIALS ARE INVOLVED -- AND CHINESE BUREAUCRATS INVOLVED ARE NOT AS FREE-WHEELING AS THEIR US COUNTERPARTS - -- DECISIONS TAKE LONGER. USLO PERSONNEL ALSO HAVE DIFFICULTY SEEING CHINESE OFFICIALS. AS RESULT OF ALL THIS, EVEN SUCH MINOR MATTERS AS VISA APPLICATIONS BY US CITIZENS ARE DELAYED. ASSERTS THAT TWO-WAY CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES HAVE SLOWED. QUOTES US CULTURAL OFFICIALS THAT THEY ARE NOT RUNNING INTO UNCLASSIFIED

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RESISTANCE FROM CHINESE, WHO ARE STILL INTERESTED ABOVE ALL IN SENDING THEIR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL PEOPLE TO US, BUT THAT SCARCITY OF FACILITIES IN CHINA AND PERHAPS UNRESOLVED DOMESTIC PROBLEMS ARE INHIBITING FACTORS THAT PREVENT PRC FROM MAKING NEEDED POLICY DECISIONS.

36. COMMENTING THAT JAPANESE ARE STILL MOST HATED - AND FEARED - PEOPLE OF ASIA, CHITRIB'S DON KIRK IN TOKYO CITES "SNEERING" ARTICLE IN BANGKOK'S NATION AND WRITING OF FIL COLUMNIST TEODORO VALENCIA SHORTLY AFTER TANAKA LEFT MANILA TO RESUME 10-DAY SEA TRIP. SAYS SEA LEADERS AND BUSINESSMEN RESENTFUL OF JAPANESE COULD NOT HAVE PICKED BETTER TIME THAN NOW TO EMPHASIZE THEIR BITTERNESS. WITH JAPAN ALMOST FRIGHTENED BY PROSPECT OF RISING COSTS AND EVENTUAL DECLINE IN OIL IMPORTS, ACCORDING KIRK, JAPANESE LEADERS ARE IN MOOD TO EXPAND THEIR AID PROGRAM AND IMPROVE CREDIT TERMS IN EFFORT TO WIN SEA SUPPORT.

37. CLAYTON FRITCHEY (CHITRIB) IN SINGAPORE MAINTAINS THAT ONE THING ALL NATIONAL LEADERS HAVE IN COMMON IS DISLIKE OF PRESS; THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE IN ASIA AND FAR EAST, WHERE NUMBER OF AGGRESSIVE, INDEPENDENT, FEARLESS NEWSPAPERS GROWS EVER SMALLER. CITES CASES OF LEE KUAN YEW, MARCOS AND OTHERS, BUT CONCEDES THAT MANILA PRESS WAS CORRUPT, DEBASED, SENSATIONAL, AND IRRESPONSIBLE. FEELS JAPANESE PRESS REMAINS STRONGEST AND MOST INFLUENTIAL, BUT NOTES GOJ LEADERS DON'T SUFFER IT GLADLY. CONCLUDES THAT WHILE PUBLIC CAN DESPISE JOURNALISTS WHO LET THEM DOWN, IT CAN ALSO APPRECIATE THOSE WHO DON'T, REFERRING TO CASE OF KUKRIT PRAMOJ, BANGKOK EDITOR, WHO UPHELD STANDARDS OF FREE PRESS AND WAS - ALONG WITH 19 OTHER JOURNALISTS - ELECTED TO 299-MEMBER THAI NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. RUSH

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